Building Our Museums and Galleries Sector Draft Plan

Arts Minister Gerry McCarthy today invited Territorians to comment on the Territory Government’s draft Building Our Museums and Galleries Sector (BOMAGS) 10 Year Plan.

Mr McCarthy said the draft plan was prepared following public consultations and submissions last year, and aims to better position the Territory to respond to the needs of a growing and more regionalised population and increased tourism.

“The Northern Territory is home to some of the world’s best art and oldest specimens which is showcased in many of our top class museums and art galleries,” Mr McCarthy said.

“The Territory Government wants to increase and improve the exposure and support of these works and specimens and that’s why we have developed a draft 10 year plan, in consultation with the community, to build our museums and galleries sector.

“Implementation of this 10 year plan will achieve Territory 2030 objectives that include growing local industry and increased participation in arts and cultural activities.

“I thank the BOMAGS working group and other contributors to the draft 10 year plan that has presented a lot of valuable data about the sector and produced several key recommendations.”

The recommendations include:

- **Harnessing people power** – develop and improve volunteer programs;
- **All care and all responsibility** – establish the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory as an independent organisation;
- **Seeking specialised secure space** – investigate requirement for a cultural precinct in Darwin;
- **Telling our stories** – improve engagement with the community;
- **Funding our Museums and Galleries** – increase funding to the sector;
- **Technology for today and tomorrow** – improve digital content and delivery methods.
- **How much do we know?** – a greater focus on research and sharing of knowledge; and
- **Managing collections** – improve security and preservation of collections.

“I encourage Territorians to obtain the draft 10 year plan at [www.nt.gov.au/consult](http://www.nt.gov.au/consult) and have their say until close of business on Friday, 25 February 2011,” Mr McCarthy said.

“This Government and the community, working together, can deliver the best outcome for all Territorians.”

Contact: Edwin Edlund 0401 119 563